

House Republican Press Release

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Adinolfi Votes for Textbook Affordability Bill



Measure Allows Students to Purchase School Materials with Financial Aid Not Yet Received

HARTFORD – Representative Al Adinolfi (R-Cheshire) today voted in favor of a bill before the House of Representatives that requires a textbook publisher to provide college faculty who inquire about purchasing its products with critical information which could impact the selection of the publications, and the price paid for the material.

Provisions of the bill, *HB 5527, An Act Concerning Textbook Affordability*, require that prior to any sale of textbooks to a college or university that a complete list of the publisher's products related to the subject the faculty member inquires about be made available. It also requires that the products' wholesale price be revealed, and information on how much longer the publisher intends to keep the products on the market. The bill includes supplemental items (such as compact discs and workbooks) that may be packaged with a textbook or sold separately.

“One of the most expensive aspects of college can often be the textbook purchase,” said Rep. Adinolfi. “This measure will allow a professor who is evaluating what texts to select for their courses to find out information about the cost which may impact their selection. Very often, professors have no idea how much their selections cost.”

The bill requires the UConn, Connecticut State University, and Community-Technical College boards of trustees to adopt policies governing the use of financial aid at bookstores under their jurisdiction. The policies must allow students to purchase textbooks at these bookstores during the first week of an academic term using financial aid that the students may have not yet received.

The bill now heads to the state Senate for action there.